

Arguments/Remarks

In the Official Action mailed November 27, 2007, the examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372 as to the following groups of claims.

Group I, claims 1-12 and 28-30.

Group II, claims 13-19 and 28-30.

Group III, claims 20-25 and 28-30.

Group IV, claims 26-30.

In response to the restriction requirement applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to prosecute Group III, claims 20-25 and 28-30 on the merits. Further, claims 2-7 have been amended such that they depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 20, and claim 28 has been amended to depend solely from claim 20. Accordingly, claims 2-7, 20-25 and 28-30 represent the elected invention.

The examiner has also required that applicants elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits. In response to the requirement, applicants elect, with traverse, a metal ion exchanged zeolite catalyst comprising at least one non-zero valent metal ion, wherein said non-zero valent metal ion is Pd^{2+} . All of claims 2-7, 20-25 and 28-30 either specifically, or generically read on the elected species.

Respectfully submitted,



Ralph J. Mancini
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 34,054

Akzo Nobel Inc.
Intellectual Property Department
120 White Plains Road, Suite 300
Tarrytown, NY 10591
Tel No.: (914) 333-7454